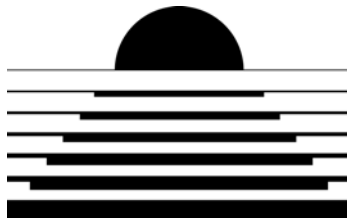


MEDIA ACCESS OFFICE NEWS



Disability Resource to the Entertainment Industry

M.A.O. MEMBER APPEARANCES

Codes:

AL-Leg Amputee B-Blind
CP-Cerebral Palsy D-Deaf
DD-Developmental Disability
Ds-Down syndrome
HI-Hearing Impaired
ID-Invisible Disability
LP-Little Person MI-Mobility
Impaired O-Other
PWD-Performers With Disabilities
VI-Visually Impaired WU-Wheelchair User



M.A.O. MEMBERS AND OTHER KNOWN PWD WHO ARE SERIES REGULARS/RECURRING

Grant Albrecht (WU) as Dr. Giles on
"CSI: New York" - CBS

Michael J. Anderson (LP) as Samson
"Carnivale" - HBO

Deanne Bray (D) as Sue Thomas
"Sue Thomas: F.B. Eye" - PAX

Robert David Hall (AL) as Coroner Dr. Robbins
"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" - CBS

Anita Hollander (AL) as Shelley
"All My Children" - ABC

Geri Jewell (CP)
"Deadwood" - as Jewel - HBO and

"The Young & the Restless" - as Rose - CBS

Mitch Longley (WU) as Barry "Bear" Caldwell
"Joan of Arcadia" - CBS

and as Surveillance Team Member Mitch
"Las Vegas" - NBC

A strong literacy advocate, Deanne established and personally funded the "Little Bookworm Club", benefiting deaf and hard of hearing Latino students. The success of the Club earned her a grant from Jordan Fundamentals, which recognizes outstanding teaching creativity in public schools serving economically disadvantaged students.

Prior to **Sue Thomas**, she was a science and math teacher for the deaf in an East Los Angeles high school. She earned a B.A. degree in Biology at CSU, Northridge and is pursuing a master's degree in Education. She encourages the cast and crew of **Sue Thomas** to learn ASL, and partners with writing staff on plot-lines and scripts - her suggestions are largely based on her own life experiences. In addition, several deaf people have been hired as extras, editors, and ASL Masters on the show. Bray also works with directors to block scenes, ensuring she is able to see what other characters are saying.

Deanne has been married to fellow deaf actor Troy Kotsur since 2001. During her summer hiatus, both of them toured in the award winning Deaf West production of **Big River**. Her other credits include the films **Ed McBain's 87th Precinct: Lightning**, **What Do Women Want**, and **Last Mountain**, and guest appearances on the TV shows **Ellen**, **Diagnosis Murder**, **The Pretender**, **Strong Medicine** and **CSI**. Her extensive stage credits include **Road to the Revolution** (for which she won Best Supporting Actress at the 2001 A.D.A. Awards), **Oliver**, **Alice in Wonderland**, **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** and the role of Helen Keller in **Helen and Frida**. Bray was also the host of a nationally syndicated show for the deaf community, "Caption This." Deanne says her role models include Phyllis Frelich, Linda Bove, Freda Norman, and the 'real' Sue Thomas. **Sue Thomas** plays on the PAX network on Sundays at 9 PM (Pacific).

THEATRE APPEARANCES

'Fighting Words'

Where: Celtic Arts Center, 4834 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Studio City.

Reservations/Info: 818-760-8322

When: Fri - Sun, now through Sept. 12th.

M.A.O. acting teacher **Laura Gardner** is starring in this West Coast premiere of a play by Sunil Kuruvilla, about the Welsh boxer Johnny Owen, and the events before and after his bout with Lupe Pinter.

'Regulars' Bios

Deanne Bray was born mostly deaf from an unknown cause (possibly from her mother having German measles while pregnant) in Canoga Park, CA in 1971. She is completely deaf in her right ear, with some residual hearing in her left ear, in which she uses a hearing aid. Bray was first discovered while performing with the Deaf dance troupe "Prism West". She has also worked with California's Deaf West Theatre and the National Theatre of the Deaf. Deanne straddles both the hearing and deaf worlds, communicating through both spoken English and American Sign Language.



'Broadway, Big Band and Classic Old Standards'

Where: Sierra Madre Playhouse, 87 Sierra Madre Blvd.

Reservations/Info: 626-256-3809 or

www.sierramadreplayhouse.org

When: Sundays only, now through 9/19 at 7 PM.

M.A.O. member **David Michael Trevino (ID)** is featured in this musical revue.

TELEVISION APPEARANCES



'Jack and Bobby'

Where: The WB network; check listings for station.

When: Sun., Sept. 12 at 9 PM (Pacific)

M.A.O. member **Michael Harvey (MI)** appears as a college student-extra in the pilot episode of this new drama.

RADIO APPEARANCES



'Breakthrough'

Where: Station KRLA, 870 AM

When: Sundays, 11 PM – Midnight

For the next few months, M.A.O. member **Darrell Evans (MI)** is hosting his own radio talk show, which will tackle issues affecting people with disabilities.

Congratulations to M.A.O. Members

Ricardo Gil (LP) repeated his role in the acclaimed Mabou Mine's NY production of **Dollhouse** at the National Theatre's Ibsen Festival in Norway! **Jay Jacobus (MI)** has a supporting role in the SAG short, **Levea's Fight**, currently filming. **Jennifer Delora (D)** performed high energy dancing using ASL for three shows at the 4th Annual South Street Seaport Deaf Festival in NY on Aug. 15th. **Max Kerstein (MI)** has been cast to play the role of the Grandmaster in a new full length SAG/Indie feature film **Dynamite Swine**, a comedy, which began filming in late August. **Dawn Grabowski (MI/CP)** performed stand-up at the Women for A Cause Concert in Hollywood on Aug. 7. **White Cane and Wheels**, a film about M.A.O. members **Carmen Apeltgren (VI)** and **Stephen Mendelson (WU)** was screened for a week at the ArcLight Theatre in Hollywood. **Dena Diamond (B)** wrote, produced, and performed two songs that appear on the new "**Clifford The Big Red Dog**" CD released this month. **Anita Hollander (AL)** is performing in six shows at a repertory company in NY through Halloween. **Thomas Cerone (Ds)** will have his picture on the Astrovision jumbotron in NY's Times Square on 9/26 in honor of Oct. being National Down syndrome Awareness month. Singer/songwriter **Jessica Callahan (B)** will have her song 'Penny' used as the theme for the film **Cages**. She also performed the song on Saigon Broadcast Television Network, and will be performing for the Singapore

Association for the Visually Handicapped. **Gail Hawkins' (ID)** short story, **Meeting Maya**, is published in the **Chicken Soup for the African American Soul** anthology. Playwright **Cheryl Marie Wade (WU)**, and actors **Mark Hendrix (WU)** and **June Stoddart (MI)**, did staged readings of two of Cheryl's plays at the Ashby Stage in Berkeley on 8/21.

Della Mayfield, Mary Joyce, and Delores McCarroll (all ID), of the singing group GOAL (Growing, Octaves, Activating, Living), performed at the Avon Award Ceremony in LA in June.

Reminder –Please email DGordy@edd.ca.gov with info for the newsletter by the *third week of the month prior to the month in which you will appear.*

Ever Widening Circle Event

The World Institute on Disability (WID) and the Corporation on Disabilities and Telecommunication (CDT) present the 6th Annual EVER WIDENING CIRCLE: An Evening of Entertainment Celebrating Art and Disability - featuring an entertaining and diverse assemblage of celebrated performers with disabilities. This is a one-night-only performance on Wed, Sept. 29, at 7:00 pm at The Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theatre, 700 Howard St. (at Third St.) in San Francisco. This year's headliner is DIANE SCHUUR, renowned Grammy & Media Access Award-winning jazz singer and pianist. Other performers include M.A.O. member **FRED BURNS**, comedian; M.A.O. member **C.J. JONES**, a deaf African-American humorist and storyteller; LIGHT MOTION, integrative dance company; and EMILIANO BORGIOIS-CHACON, team slam poet. Actor and San Francisco resident DANNY GLOVER is the honorary chair of the event. Tickets are \$15 and up. To order tickets call (415) 987-2787. For information visit: www.wid.org.

New Classes Start at MAO!

A 12-week beginning acting class, taught by Christina Kokubo, will take place Sept. 22 to Dec. 8 at the M.A.O. Office, 1-3 PM. Students will memorize a monologue or scene to perform before an audience on the last session. For info and/or to sign up, call the office at (818) 752-1196.

David Zimmerman will also be starting 6-week acting classes: day sessions, 1-4 PM on Weds. starting 9/29, night sessions, 7-9:30 PM on Thurs. starting 9/30. Special rate for MAO members will be \$60. For more info, call David at (323) 868-9913.

Free Deaf Theatre Presentation

Grand Performances offers free outdoor concerts in downtown Los Angeles at California Plaza (next to MOCA) and across the street from the Disney Center. Sena y Verbo, a deaf theater company from Mexico City will be making their West Coast premiere Thurs.-Sat., 9/16-18. The show will be performed in Mexican sign language as well as ASL & English. For more info: call (213) 687-2482 or go to www.GrandPerformances.org.

September 2004

HOLLYWOOD NETWORKING BREAKFAST

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER is Jack Truby, Hollywood's premier screenwriting consultant. John Truby has taught his 22-Step Great Screenwriting and Genre classes to over 20,000 students worldwide. He has also worked as a story consultant/script doctor for Disney, Sony, FOX, and HBO. His students include the writer, director or producer for Shrek, The Mask of Zorro, Beetlejuice, Pirates of the Caribbean, Star Wars and many others. Truby will be giving pointers from his course. **Date: Thursday, Sept. 30, 2004, 8 AM-10:30 AM.** For info call (310) 477-0996, ext. 3 or go to www.changingimagesinamerica.org. [Due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts of the speakers, the Aug. HNB was cancelled and will be rescheduled. If you would like your prepayment for August to be applied to September, call (310) 477-0996 ext. 3, by Sept. 15.]

ATTENTION SCREENWRITERS

Iris International Film is seeking a screenwriter for their next project. M.A.O. Member/co-producer **Jody Lee Olhava (MI)** needs a writer to adapt a popular Mexican folktale of a macabre nature. It will be turned into a 25-minute short for young audiences. Salary is contingent upon sale of the film. A viable writing resume and the ability to translate the material into Spanish is required. For more info, go to www.irisfilmintl.com and/or send a fax to (213) 484-5484.

Dragonmount Pictures, an award-winning independent film production company located in the SF Bay Area, is accepting written story pitches for short-subject movies, twenty minutes or less in duration, until Sept. 15. All pitches will be considered for a set of short films that begin production next year. They are a nonfunded independent production company and are unable to pay writers for their work, but do offer screen credit. Specific guidelines can be found on www.dragonmount.com/Movies. Please send questions to pitch@dragonmount.com!

Attention S.A.G. Members!

The National Arts and Disability Center is conducting a very important survey to collect information about the employment of PWDs in film and television, specifically about auditions, getting work, the hiring process & barriers to employment. During the month of September, only SAG members who have self identified as performers with disabilities on the Special Skills and Talent Survey form will receive a copy of the survey. Make sure your form with SAG is up to date!



Looking for information about us?
Get more info about the work of the Friends of the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities, Inc. and the Media Access Office at:
www.disabilityemployment.org

SAVE THE DATE!

The 22nd Media Access Awards

Saturday, October 23, 2004

**THE HIGHLANDS
(at Hollywood & Highland)
HOLLYWOOD, CA**



**For ticket information call
(310) 388-4668**

*Do you have information for the Newsletter?
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REACH US VIA E-MAIL:

Gloria M. Castañeda – GCastane@edd.ca.gov
(Send Gloria an e-mail if you would like to receive last minute M.A.O. information or announcements via email.)

Dr. Douglas Gordy (M.A.O. North) – DGordy@edd.ca.gov

The Media Access Office is staffed by the Employment Development Department and the California Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Volunteers and in-kind donations through the Friends of the CGCEPD, Inc. support the office. ♦

September 2004



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